

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Starts: August 24, 2006, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Purpose & Summary: The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)'s Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Advisory Committee will meet August 24, 2006, to vote on a proposed rule requiring pipeline operations to consider internal corrosion when designing and constructing new and replaced gas transmission pipelines. Committee members will participate via telephone conference call. This meeting is open to the public.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation (DOT) announces a public meeting of PHMSA's Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee (TPSSC). The meeting objective is to vote on a proposed rule requiring pipeline operators to consider internal corrosion when designing and constructing new and replaced gas transmission pipelines.

The Committee members will participate via telephone conference call. Members of the public may attend the meeting at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC, in room 3246 A.

For additional information regarding these meetings contact: Cheryl Whetsel, 202-366-4431, Email: cheryl.whetsel@dot.gov. You may review the Federal Register meeting notice at: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Click on "Simple Search" and enter docket number 4470. Reverse order to view the most current documents.

Members of the public may attend the meeting. PHMSA will post any additional information or changes on its web page (<http://phmsa.dot.gov>).

Members of the public may make short statements on the topics under discussion. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement should notify Ms. Whetsel no later than August 21 of the topic and the length of the presentation. The presiding officer at the meeting may deny any request to present an oral statement and may limit the time of any presentation.

You may submit written comments by mail or deliver them to the Dockets Facility by August 24, 2006, at the U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. The Dockets Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You also may submit written comments to the docket electronically by logging onto the web page <http://dms.dot.gov>. Click on “Help & Information” for instructions on how to file a document electronically. All written comments should reference docket number PHMSA-98-4470. Anyone who would like confirmation of mailed comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard.

Privacy Act Statement: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received for any of our dockets. You may review DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Background on the Proposed Rule:

On December 15, 2005, PHMSA published a notice of proposed rulemaking

(NPRM) in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 74262) on the control of internal corrosion when designing and constructing new and replaced gas transmission pipelines.

PHMSA's pipeline safety regulations now require operators to have operation and maintenance practices to control internal corrosion. The NPRM proposed to require operators to address the risk of internal corrosion at a much earlier stage; namely when designing and constructing new and replaced gas transmission pipelines.

PHMSA presented the NPRM to the TPSSC at a meeting on June 28, 2006. Members expressed concern about the enforceability of the NPRM and the extent of its recordkeeping requirements. The TPSSC requested postponement of consideration of the NPRM and additional information before a vote on it. The TPSSC will be voting on the reasonableness, cost-effectiveness, and practicability of the NPRM at the meeting scheduled in this notice. PHMSA will provide additional information to the members prior to the meeting.

PHMSA will issue a final rule based on the proposed rule, the comments received from the public, and the vote and comments of the advisory committee.